

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:MSTERNER:S/P:DAKORN:TH
APPROVED BY NEA:HHAUNDERS
S/S-O: TGMARTIN

-----028605 051857Z /41

P 051656Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DOHA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: BRIEFING ON DAYAN AND BEGIN VISITS

1. FOLLOWING IS FOR USE AT YOUR DISCRETION IN BRIEFING SENIOR HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON OUR LATEST ROUND OF TALKS WITH BEGIN AND DAYAN.

2. THE SECRETARY HELD TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH DAYAN APRIL 26 AND 27. IN ALL THE DISCUSSIONS LASTED SOME SIX HOURS. OUR PURPOSE IS TO HELP ACHIEVE ENOUGH AGREEMENT ON A FRAMEWORK FOR A SETTLEMENT SO THAT OTHER PARTIES CAN BECOME INVOLVED AND NEGOTIATIONS CAN BEGIN. EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE MET IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE OF THE CAIRO CONFERENCE, SO THE OBJECTIVE IN NEGOTIATING A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES IS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON OTHER FRONTS AS WELL. DISCUSSION OF THE DECLARATION HAS PROCEEDED TO A POINT WHERE TWO MAIN ISSUES REMAIN--THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL AND THE SHAPE OF AN APPROACH TO THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE. IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES, IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO TURN TO THE SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF THE CAIRO CONFERENCE--GUIDE-SECRET

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LINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ISSUES RELATING TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA--TO SEE WHETHER DISCUSSION OF PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS WOULD PRODUCE UNDERSTANDINGS THAT MIGHT THEN BE

REFLECTED IN THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. THAT IS WHY THE TALK WITH DAYAN FOCUSED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. FROM OUR TALKS WITH DAYAN AND EARLIER WITH THE EGYPTIANS WE FIND PARTIES IN AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN POINTS, BUT THERE CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES. WE ARE EXPECTING FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS FROM THE ISRAELIS IN REGARD TO CERTAIN SPECIFIC POINTS. WE FEEL THE TALKS WERE USEFUL, THOUGH IN THEMSELVES THEY HAVE NOT BROUGHT FORWARD MOVEMENT. FYI: YOU WILL HAVE NOTED THAT WORD

"PROGRESS" WAS NOT USED TO CHARACTERIZE TALKS IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY USG SPOKESMAN. END FYI.

3. BEGIN IS IN THIS COUNTRY IN RESPONSE TO INVITATIONS FROM AMERICAN JEWISH GROUPS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY. HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS BRIEF--HE ARRIVED IN MID-MORNING AND LEFT IN MID-AFTERNOON MAY 1--AND AS MUCH CEREMONIAL AS

SUBSTANTIVE, THE HIGH POINT BEING HIS ATTENDANCE AT A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT FOR AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS. SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATIONS WERE BRIEF AND OF GENERAL NATURE BUT WE STRESSED THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF MOVING FORWARD QUICKLY TO RESOLVE KEY PROBLEMS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. OF COURSE ISRAELI THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WERE THE OCCASION FOR PUBLIC REAFFIRMATION OF THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES. BEGIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO REASSURE ISRAEL THAT THE U.S. REMAINS COMMITTED TO ITS SECURITY AS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE SEARCH FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THESE HOWEVER ARE SECRET

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LONG STANDING USG POLICIES AND THEIR REAFFIRMATION DOES NOT IN ANY WAY IMPLY A CHANGE IN OUR POLICIES ON A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT OR IN POSITIONS WE HAVE TAKEN ON THE ISSUES INVOLVED.

5. FOR ALL ACTION ARAB POST ADDRESSEES PLUS AMMAN: YOU SHOULD TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IMPORTANCE USG CONTINUES TO ATTACH TO SUPPORT FOR SADAT'S NEGOTIATING STRATEGY. EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES BOTH DIRECTLY AND THROUGH US HAVE LAID BARE THE CRUCIAL ISSUES AND DEFINED THEM IN PRACTICAL TERMS. THESE ARE NOT EASY TO RESOLVE AND IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE REACHED POINT OF TEMPORARY IMPASSE. WE ARE NOT DISCOURAGED, HOWEVER. WE ARE IN ACTIVE CONSULTATION WITH SADAT AND ISRAELIS ON WAYS TO BREAK THROUGH AND WE BELIEVE WE WILL SUCCEED. IN MEANTIME INTENSE DEBATE IS UNDERWAY WITHIN ISRAEL ON BEGIN'S POLICIES EXTENDING EVEN TO PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS INVOLVING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF CITIZENS. THIS PROCESS OF CREATING INTERNAL MOVEMENT TOWARD MORE ACCOMMODATING POLICIES ON THE ISSUES IS AS MUCH AN ESSENTIAL PART OF PEACE PROCESS AS IS THE RECONCILIATION OF VIEWPOINTS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES. THAT PROCESS TAKES TIME, AND AS IT CHALLENGES ESTABLISHED POSITIONS IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT NEGOTIATING PROGRESS WILL BE SUBJECTED TO UPS AND DOWNS. WE ARE FORTUNATE IN HAVING IN SADAT A

LEADER CAPABLE NOT ONLY OF COURAGEOUS DECISIONS BUT ONE WHO HAS A PROFOUND UNDERSTANDING OF HOW POLITICAL CHANGES ARE BROUGHT ABOUT AND OF TIME ELEMENT IN THIS PROCESS. WE ARE NOW AT DELICATE STAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS AND IT IS HIGHLY IMPORTANT THAT OUR FRIENDS IN ARAB WORLD, WHO SHARE WITH US OBJECTIVE OF ACHIEVING MIDDLE EAST PEACE, SECRET

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NOT WAVER IN THEIR SUPPORT FOR LEADERSHIP ROLE SADAT IS
PLAYING. UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO SEE NEGOTIATIONS
THROUGH TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION REMAINS AS FIRM AS
EVER. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIEFING MATERIALS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE114888
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MSTERNER:S/P:DAKORN:TH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780192-0898
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780588/aaaacwxf.tel
Line Count: 179
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 386f3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2775513
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING ON DAYAN AND BEGIN VISITS
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, XF, (DAYAN, MOSHE), (BEGIN, MENACHEM)
To: BEIRUT DAMASCUS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/386f3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014